



CELL GROUP MATERIAL

6 SEPTEMBER 2026

6 SEPTEMBER SERMON

Raising Winners: Humility

PASTOR BOBBY MATHEW

Based on Sermon: Humility - Daniel 4

Overview

This week's sermon drew from Daniel 4, the remarkable testimony of King Nebuchadnezzar, to challenge us with a vital question: When God blesses us and brings us success, do we remain humble and dependent on Him? Through Nebuchadnezzar's story of pride, judgment, and restoration, we are invited to examine our own hearts and redirect our praise to the One who is truly in charge.

Key Takeaways

1. **Remember who raised you.** Every achievement, ability, and blessing we have ultimately comes from God. Humility recognizes the gift but never forgets the Giver.
 2. **Stay teachable.** God warns before He judges. He gives space for repentance, but we must be willing to listen - even when the message comes from an unexpected source.
 3. **Know who is really in charge.** All authority and power belong to God. Whatever strength, position, or resources we hold have been entrusted to us, not owned by us.
 4. **Look up.** Humility is not self-deprecation. True humility means fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, rather than on our circumstances or our accomplishments.
 5. **Give God the glory.** God's ultimate desire is not merely to restore our blessings. He wants to redirect our praise entirely to Him, because that is what we were made for.
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Opening Activity

Go around the cell group and have each person finish this sentence in one or two words:

"When things are going really well in my life, I tend to feel _____."

No explanation needed yet - just name it. You will return to these answers later in the discussion.

Discussion Questions

Section 1 - Remember Who Raised You

1. The sermon used the illustration of a child on a parent's shoulders declaring, "I am the tallest." Can you think of a time in your own life when you forgot that your "height" was because someone was carrying you? What did that look like in practice?
2. Deuteronomy 8:18 reminds us that it is God who gives us the power to get wealth and to succeed. How does genuinely believing that change the way you make decisions about your time, money, and resources?
3. The sermon mentioned that sometimes we treat things we once prayed desperately for as ordinary once we receive them — a job, a relationship, a home, an opportunity. Is there anything in your life right now that has shifted from "answered prayer" to "just normal"?

Section 2 - Stay Teachable

4. God gave Nebuchadnezzar a full twelve months to respond to His warning before judgment came. Have you ever recognized in hindsight that God was warning you about something for a long time before you finally listened? What helped you eventually hear it?
5. The sermon acknowledged honestly that it can be difficult to receive correction from people we do not respect or whose motives we question. How do you personally discern when a word of correction is from God, even if the messenger is imperfect?
6. Proverbs 9:9 says that giving instruction to a wise person makes them wiser still. What habits or practices help you remain open and teachable in your daily life - especially when things are going well?

Section 3 - Know Who Is Really in Charge

7. Daniel 4:25 says that judgment came so that Nebuchadnezzar would know "that the Most High rules in the kingdom of man and gives it to whoever He chooses." In

what areas of your life is it hardest to genuinely believe that God is in charge - not just in theory but in practice?

8. The sermon pointed out that authority at home, in marriage, and in the workplace is given by God and must be held with accountability to Him. How does viewing your authority or influence as a stewardship rather than an ownership change how you exercise it?
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Section 4 - Look Up

9. The sermon made an important distinction: humility is not talking about how bad or useless you are. True humility means placing God in His rightful position above everything else. How would you explain the difference between false humility and genuine humility to someone who has never heard it before?
 10. Hebrews 12:2 calls us to fix our eyes on Jesus rather than on the people around us or the race they are running. What are the most common things that pull your focus away from Jesus during a normal week? What is one practical step you could take to redirect your gaze?
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Section 5 - Give God the Glory

11. Nebuchadnezzar ended Daniel 4 not just with a restored kingdom but with redirected praise. The sermon said that God's ultimate interest is not merely restoring our blessings but redirecting our worship entirely to Him. Do you think it is possible to receive restored blessings without the redirected praise? What does that look like, and what does it cost us?
 12. The sermon closed with a reflection on communion - that Jesus, who holds all power and authority, humbled Himself to become a servant and gave His life for us. How does meditating on what Jesus did on the cross shape the way you think about your own pride and humility?
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Practical Applications

Choose one or more of the following to put into practice before your next cell group meeting:

- **Gratitude audit.** Make a list of five things you currently have that you once prayed desperately for. Spend time this week thanking God specifically for each one and asking Him to keep your heart from taking them for granted.
- **Teachability check.** Think of one person in your life who has tried to speak into you recently - a parent, a pastor, a friend, a spouse - and you have been slow to receive it. Pray and ask God whether there is something worth hearing in what they said. If so, take a step toward that conversation.
- **Stewardship reflection.** Identify one area in your finances, a position of leadership, a skill, a relationship where you have been acting as the owner rather than the steward. Write down one concrete way you can hold that thing more openly before God this week.
- **Look-up discipline.** Set a specific time each morning this week, even if only for five minutes, to open Scripture and pray before you check your phone, your messages, or your schedule. Use that time to acknowledge that God is in charge of the day ahead.
- **Redirected praise.** At the end of each day this week, name one success or good thing that happened and verbally give God the credit for it, either in prayer or in a journal. Practice making this a reflex rather than an afterthought.

Closing Prayer Guide

Close your cell group time by praying together through these five themes from the sermon:

1. **Gratitude** — Thank God for specific blessings He has given that you did not earn on your own.
 2. **Teachability** — Ask God to soften your heart to hear His voice, however He chooses to speak.
 3. **Surrender** — Acknowledge areas where you have been acting as though you are in charge, and release them to God.
 4. **Focus** — Ask God to fix your eyes on Jesus throughout the coming week.
 5. **Praise** — End by simply worshipping God for who He is, not only for what He has done.
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Memory Verse for the Week

Deuteronomy 8:18

God gives us the power to gain wealth and to succeed, so that His covenant purposes may be established. Let this truth anchor your heart whenever you are tempted to take credit for what God has done.